

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed on March 10, 2004 the Examiner objected to claims 23 and 25-30 on the basis of their dependence on rejected claims. The Examiner also rejected claims 1-22 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The Applicants thank the
210 Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 23 and 25-30. The Applicants have rewritten claims 23, 25 and 30 in independent form, canceled all rejected claims, and added claims 31-42. No new matter has been added, and the new claims are supported by the specification as originally filed. The Applicants submit that claims 23 and 25-42 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants request that the Examiner enter these
215 amendments and issue a Notice of Allowance.

220

225

230

235

240

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants submit that the
245 present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request notice to this
effect.

Respectfully submitted,

250

Date: June 10, 2004

By: 

255

Marcus J. Thymian
Reg. No. 43,954
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6709
312 935 2352
thymian@mbhb.com

260